

Update!

CRIME WATCH

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VEHICLE CLONING

Criminals can steal the identity of your car by simply looking through the windshield and writing down the car's vehicle identification number (VIN)

HOW TO AVOID BUYING A CLONED VEHICLE

- *Check the VIN with your state's Department of Motor Vehicle
- *Analyze the ownership pattern for any vehicle with no lien
- *Hire an investigator to conduct a vehicle history search
- *Trust your instincts. If a used vehicle deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

FACTS

- *The most common criminal is the Sociopath
- *The Sociopath is the most dangerous criminal
- *1 of 25 people are Sociopathic
- *Everyone will have at least one encounter with a Sociopath during his/her lifetime
- *If something seems too good to be true, it probably is!

DANGER

IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft is the fastest-growing crime in America! Statistics show there are now from 500K to 700K victims of the crime every year. It only takes one key piece of information such as a Social Security number or drivers license number in order to obtain credit or merchandise in someone else's name. The U.S. Department of Justice estimates there are more than 10,000 victims of identity crime each WEEK! The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) says that victims spend an average of 175 hours of their time and incur \$1000 in expenses clearing their name. No one is immune to identity theft but there are things you can do to minimize your risk of becoming a victim.

HOW TO BEAT THE SCAM ARTISTS

- *Watch what you throw in the trash, use a shredder for personal information
- *Send and receive mail in a locked mailbox, or rent one at the post office
- *Keep all your account information in a safe place, like a locked drawer in your home
- *Check your credit report at the three credit reporting agencies at least one a year, TransUnion, Experian, Equifax
- *Don't carry your Social Security number in your wallet
- *Don't give out information unless you have to
- *Reduce the number of pre-approved credit card offers you receive by calling 1-800-567-8688
- *Keep a record of all your credit card numbers
- *Be on guard against telephone and Internet scams
- *When you make a purchase over the Internet, make sure you're in a secure Web site
- *Don't give an account number over the phone



WHAT TO DO IF YOU BECOME A VICTIM: *Call the three credit reporting agencies-TransUnion, 1-800-680-7289, Experian, 1-800-EXPERIAN, and Equifax, 1-800-525-6285 *Notify the police *Notify creditors who have opened fraudulent accounts in your name. Tell them it's a case of ID theft and to shut down those accounts so that it doesn't continue. *Report the crime to the FTC toll free number 1-877-IDTHEFT *The Identity Theft Resource Center in San Diego can be reached at 1-858-693-7935 or at www.idtheftcenter.org